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with the serum of *Agaricus*. The Tuber extract gave strong precipitation both with Tuber serum and with yeast serum, but none with mushroom serum. The mushroom extract gave a precipitate only with the serum of the animal treated with mushroom extract. From these experiments the writers infer that the yeast is more closely related to the Ascomycetes than it is to the Basidiomycetes. While the precipitin method has been used to a certain extent in attempts to show relationships among animals, too much stress should not be laid on this single experiment with plants. It is possible that albuminous substances from some plants may produce precipitins in the blood of animals that will then react with many plant albumins, just as it has been found that precipitins in animals will affect animals of more and more distant relationship depending on the intensity and duration of the treatment of the original animal.—H. HASSELBRING.

Sand keys of Florida.—MILLSPAUGH¹² has published the results of further exploration of the sand keys of Florida. In 1904 O. E. LANSING, JR. was sent to examine all the islets lying to the westward of Key West, and his collections, notes, and maps form the basis of the present paper. The vegetation of each islet is mapped in a very effective way. The value of the survey is to enable future students to determine what species have come to the different islets since 1904 and what have been unable to survive; what species come first to such islets; and how species spread when brought into an untainted environment. In a summary it is shown that such species as are able to avail themselves of bird and water transportation, and can withstand or actually need a saline soil and atmosphere, are the species that lay hold of these islets. Wind transportation appears to play no part whatever in the plant colonization of these minute islets. From wide study of such areas in the Antillean region, the author concludes that the order of precedence in the vegetation-covering of the wave-formed sand keys of Florida has been as follows, the method of transportation also being indicated: (1) *Sesuvium portulacastrum* (water), (2) *Cakile fusiformis* (water), (3) *Euphorbia buxifolia* (bird), (4) *Cenchrus tribuloides* and *Cyperus brunneus* (bird), (5) *Uniola paniculata* (water), (6) *Andropogon glomeratus* (bird), (7) *Suriana maritima* and *Tournefortia gnaphalodes* (bird), (8) *Borrichia arborescens* and *Iva imbricata* (bird), and (9) *Ambrosia hispida* (water).—J. M. C.

Pythium and Chytridiaceae.—BUTLER has¹³ made an extended study of the genus *Pythium*. The introductory part of his monograph is a somewhat lengthy account of the habits, structure, and biology of the members of the genus. The observations recorded have for the most part been described by earlier students of the group, and very little that is new is added. An observation relating to the morphology of the sporangia and conidia of the genus is of interest.

¹² MILLSPAUGH, CHARLES F., Flora of the sand keys of Florida. Field Columbian Mus. Publ. Bot. Ser. 2:191-245. 1907.

¹³ BUTLER, E. J., An account of the genus *Pythium* and some Chytridiaceae. Mem. Dept. Agric. India. Bot. Series 15: pp. 160. pls. 10. 1907.